

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 Claims 1—23: Cancelled.

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3 24. (Currently amended.) A method for determining shadowing cast
4 onto a bump mapped surface by one or more bumps thereon, where the bump
5 mapped surface is represented by a plurality of polygons each having a plurality of
6 vertices, each vertex defining a point in a tangent plane of the bump mapped
7 surface, where a normal vector at each said vertex is perturbed to define a bump
8 map of the bump mapped surface that includes a plurality of bumps on the surface,
9 the method comprising:

10 defining a horizon map of the surface including, for each of a plurality of
11 radial directions in the tangent plane around each said vertex, the largest angle
12 between the normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex; and

13 storing the horizon map as a set of texture maps corresponding to the
14 surface on the three-dimensional graphical ~~object~~ object; and

15 wherein for each said vertex, each said texture map has a plurality of color
16 channels, each said color channel having encoded therein the largest angle
17 between the normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex that does not
18 contact any of the bumps on the surface.
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 25. (Original.) The method as defined in Claim 24, further comprising:
2 executing an interactive program that defines a light source by a
3 direction relative to:
4 the tangent plane of the surface; and
5 the normal of each said vertex;
6 determining at least two of the radial directions stored in the horizon
7 map with respect to the direction of the light source;
8 interpolating from the largest angles at the at least two radial
9 directions of the horizon map to obtain the portion of each said polygon
10 that is in the light from the light source;
11 rendering the surface on the three-dimensional graphical
12 object, from a given point of view, to include only the portion of each said
13 polygon that is in the light from the light source;
14 interactively receiving instructions to change the direction of
15 the light source relative to the surface on the three-dimensional graphical
16 object;
17 repeating the determining by interpolation step using the changed
18 direction of the light source relative to the surface on the three-dimensional
19 graphical object; and
20 repeating the rendering.
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 26. (Cancelled.)

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3 27. (Currently amended.) The method as defined in Claim ~~[[26]]~~24,
4 wherein:

5 the set of texture maps comprises two texture maps; and

6 each said texture map:

7 ~~corresponding~~ corresponds to not more than four of the radial
8 directions; and

9 has four ~~color~~ color channels each having not more than one radial
10 direction encoding for the corresponding largest angle for each vertex
11 between the normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex that does
12 not contact any of the bumps on the surface.

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14 28. (Cancelled.)
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 29. (Original.) A method for rendering a frame in a frame buffer
2 represented by a plurality of pixels, the frame depicting a three dimensional
3 graphical object that is defined by surfaces each having a surface geometry
4 defined by a parameterization of a plurality of polygons, each polygon being
5 defined by vertices, each vertex (u,v) having a bump map scalar value $F(u,v)$
6 defining a bump, each vertex (u,v) having a perturbed normal map vector value
7 $N'(u,v)$ from the bump map scalar value $F(u,v)$, each vertex (u,v) having M basis
8 maps $(B_k=1 \dots M(s, t))$, each vertex (u,v) having M horizon maps for each of M
9 radial directions $(\theta_k=1 \dots M)$ in the tangent plane of the vertex (u, v) , wherein each
10 of the M horizon maps includes the largest angle $\phi(u,v,\theta_k=1 \dots M)$ between the
11 perturbed normal map vector value $N'(u, v)$ and any direct ray to the vertex (u, v) ,
12 the method comprising:

13 (i) defining a light vector (L) having a direction defined by:

14 the angle θ_L between the light vector (L) and the plane
15 formed by coordinates (u,v) ; and

16 the angle ϕ_L between the light vector (L) and the perturbed
17 normal map vector value $N'(u,v)$;

18 (ii) inverting a local tangent frame by $[P_u, P_v, N]^T = [S^T, T^T, N^T]$ to
19 obtain an inverted tangent frame (S,T) ;

20 (iii) taking the dot product of the light vector (L) :

21 with the first two components of the inverted frame
22 (S,T) to obtain the projection of the light vector (L) into the
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 coordinate space in the tangent plane at a coordinate pair (s,t);
2 and

3 with the perturbed normal map vector value $N'(u, v)$ at
4 the vertex to obtain cosine (ϕ_L);

5 (iv) setting the camera angle of the rendering to a point of view to be
6 rendered for the frame to write into the space of a texture map;

7 (v) computing first and second texture effects on each pixel in the frame
8 buffer, respectively, from first and second sets of the M directions stored as
9 texture maps, wherein each said largest angle $\phi(u, v, \theta_k)$ is in one of a
10 plurality of color channels of a texture map, wherein one of the M
11 directions corresponds to each said color channel of the texture map, and
12 wherein the first and second texture effects are defined, respectively by:

13 a basis map $B_1(s, t)$ of said M basis maps ($B_{k=1...M}(s, t)$), and
14 a horizon map, $\phi_1(u, v)$ of said M horizon maps; and

15 a basis map $B_2(s, t)$ of said M basis maps ($B_{k=1...M}(s, t)$), and
16 a horizon map, $\phi_2(u, v)$ of said M horizon maps;

17 (vi) storing the first and second texture effects for each pixel in
18 the frame buffer in a texture map $\phi(\theta_{\text{LIGHT}})$;

19 (vii) for a given camera perspective view:

20 on a first operation, rendering a model of the three
21 dimensional graphical object with an ambient low level
22 lighting term only;

23 on a second operation:
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 setting an alpha test and a stencil function to
2 accept only those pixels in the frame buffer that have a
3 non-zero alpha test result;

4 setting a color mask upon the frame buffer,
5 wherein the color mask will not write to the color
6 channels of the texture maps, whereby the ambient low
7 level lighting term previously rendered is preserved;

8 drawing, using multi-texturing, for the angle
9 (ϕ_L) and the angle to the horizon (θ_L), the first and
10 second texture effects on each pixel in the frame
11 buffer, which are, respectively, $\cos(\phi_L)$ that is
12 greater than ϕ_L , and $\phi(\theta_{\text{LIGHT}})$;

13 on a third operation:

14 setting the alpha test off;

15 setting the color mask upon the frame
16 buffer to allow writing to the color channels of
17 the texture maps;

18 setting the stencil function to only draw
19 pixels in the frame buffer that have a non-zero
20 alpha test result;

21 setting a blending function to accumulate
22 into the frame buffer with the ambient low level
23 lighting term;

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 drawing the vector valued perturbed
2 normal map $N'(u,v)$; and

3 displaying the three dimensional
4 graphical object defined by pixels in the frame
5 buffer, wherein the displayed object has an
6 ambient only term in shadowed regions and
7 normal bump mapping in non-shadowed
8 regions.

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10 30. (Original.) The method as defined in Claim 29, further comprising:
11 interactively receiving instructions that change the definition of the
12 light vector (L) with respect to each vertex (u,v); and
13 repeating (i) through (vii) using the changed definition of the light
14 vector (L).

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16 Claims 31—41: Cancelled.
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 42. (New.) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-
2 executable instructions for determining shadowing cast onto a bump mapped
3 surface by one or more bumps thereon, where the bump mapped surface is
4 represented by a plurality of polygons each having a plurality of vertices, each
5 vertex defining a point in a tangent plane of the bump mapped surface, where a
6 normal vector at each said vertex is perturbed to define a bump map of the bump
7 mapped surface that includes a plurality of bumps on the surface, the computer-
8 executable instructions comprising instructions for:

9 defining a horizon map of the surface including, for each of a plurality of
10 radial directions in the tangent plane around each said vertex, the largest angle
11 between the normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex;

12 storing the horizon map as a set of texture maps corresponding to the
13 surface on the three-dimensional graphical object; and

14 wherein for each said vertex, each said texture map has a plurality of color
15 channels, each said color channel having encoded therein the largest angle
16 between the normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex that does not
17 contact any of the bumps on the surface.

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 43. (New.) The one or more media as recited in claim 42, comprising
2 further instructions for:

3 executing an interactive program that defines a light source by a
4 direction relative to:

5 the tangent plane of the surface; and

6 the normal of each said vertex;

7 determining at least two of the radial directions stored in the horizon
8 map with respect to the direction of the light source;

9 interpolating from the largest angles at the at least two radial
10 directions of the horizon map to obtain the portion of each said polygon
11 that is in the light from the light source;

12 rendering the surface on the three-dimensional graphical
13 object, from a given point of view, to include only the portion of each said
14 polygon that is in the light from the light source;

15 interactively receiving instructions to change the direction of
16 the light source relative to the surface on the three-dimensional graphical
17 object;

18 repeating the determining by interpolation step using the changed
19 direction of the light source relative to the surface on the three-dimensional
20 graphical object; and

21 repeating the rendering.
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S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 44. (New.) The one or more media as recited in claim 42, wherein:

2 the set of texture maps comprises two texture maps; and

3 each said texture map:

4 corresponds to not more than four of the radial directions; and

5 has four color channels each having not more than one radial
6 direction encoding for the corresponding largest angle for each vertex between the
7 normal vector and any direct ray of light to the vertex that does not contact any of
8 the bumps on the surface.

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10 45. (New.) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-
11 executable instructions for rendering a frame in a frame buffer represented by a
12 plurality of pixels, the frame depicting a three dimensional graphical object that is
13 defined by surfaces each having a surface geometry defined by a parameterization
14 of a plurality of polygons, each polygon being defined by vertices, each vertex
15 (u,v) having a bump map scalar value $F(u,v)$ defining a bump, each vertex (u,v)
16 having a perturbed normal map vector value $N'(u,v)$ from the bump map scalar
17 value $F(u,v)$, each vertex (u,v) having M basis maps $(B_k=1...M(s, t))$, each vertex
18 (u,v) having M horizon maps for each of M radial directions $(\theta_k=1...M)$ in the
19 tangent plane of the vertex (u, v) , wherein each of the M horizon maps includes
20 the largest angle $\phi(u,v,\theta_k=1...M)$ between the perturbed normal map vector value
21 $N'(u, v)$ and any direct ray to the vertex (u, v) , the computer-executable
22 instructions comprising instructions for:

23 (i) defining a light vector (L) having a direction defined by:

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

the angle θ_L between the light vector (L) and the plane formed by coordinates (u,v); and

the angle ϕ_L between the light vector (L) and the perturbed normal map vector value $N'(u,v)$;

(ii) inverting a local tangent frame by $[P_u, P_v, N]^T = [S^T, T^T, N^T]$ to obtain an inverted tangent frame (S,T);

(iii) taking the dot product of the light vector (L):

with the first two components of the inverted frame (S,T) to obtain the projection of the light vector (L) into the coordinate space in the tangent plane at a coordinate pair (s,t); and

with the perturbed normal map vector value $N'(u, v)$ at the vertex to obtain cosine (ϕ_L);

(iv) setting the camera angle of the rendering to a point of view to be rendered for the frame to write into the space of a texture map;

(v) computing first and second texture effects on each pixel in the frame buffer, respectively, from first and second sets of the M directions stored as texture maps, wherein each said largest angle $\phi(u,v,\theta_k)$ is in one of a plurality of color channels of a texture map, wherein one of the M directions corresponds to each said color channel of the texture map, and wherein the first and second texture effects are defined, respectively by:

a basis map $B_1(s, t)$ of said M basis maps ($B_{k=1 \dots M}(s, t)$), and a horizon map, $\phi_1(u, v)$ of said M horizon maps; and

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 a basis map $B_2(s, t)$ of said M basis maps ($B_{k=1...M}(s, t)$), and
2 a horizon map, $\phi_2(u, v)$ of said M horizon maps;

3 (vi) storing the first and second texture effects for each pixel in
4 the frame buffer in a texture map $\phi(\theta_{\text{LIGHT}})$;

5 (vii) for a given camera perspective view:

6 on a first operation, rendering a model of the three
7 dimensional graphical object with an ambient low level
8 lighting term only;

9 on a second operation:

10 setting an alpha test and a stencil function to
11 accept only those pixels in the frame buffer that have a
12 non-zero alpha test result;

13 setting a color mask upon the frame buffer,
14 wherein the color mask will not write to the color
15 channels of the texture maps, whereby the ambient low
16 level lighting term previously rendered is preserved;

17 drawing, using multi-texturing, for the angle
18 (ϕ_L) and the angle to the horizon (θ_L) , the first and
19 second texture effects on each pixel in the frame
20 buffer, which are, respectively, $\cosine(\phi_L)$ that is
21 greater than ϕ_L , and $\phi(\theta_{\text{LIGHT}})$;

22 on a third operation:

23 setting the alpha test off;

S/N 09/892,924

Response to Office Action Dated 08/02/2004

1 setting the color mask upon the frame
2 buffer to allow writing to the color channels of
3 the texture maps;

4 setting the stencil function to only draw
5 pixels in the frame buffer that have a non-zero
6 alpha test result;

7 setting a blending function to accumulate
8 into the frame buffer with the ambient low level
9 lighting term;

10 drawing the vector valued perturbed
11 normal map $N'(u,v)$; and

12 displaying the three dimensional
13 graphical object defined by pixels in the frame
14 buffer, wherein the displayed object has an
15 ambient only term in shadowed regions and
16 normal bump mapping in non-shadowed
17 regions.

18
19 46. (New.) The one or more media as recited in claim 45, comprising
20 further instructions for:

21 interactively receiving instructions that change the definition of the
22 light vector (L) with respect to each vertex (u,v); and

23 repeating (i) through (vii) using the changed definition of the light
24 vector (L).
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